

FY18 EPA Accomplishments in the Lead Paint Alliance

EPA's lead paint team played a significant role in these accomplishments of the Lead Paint Alliance:

NEW FINAL LAWS: Cameroon, Ethiopia, and Iraq have established new laws to address lead in paint. CARICOM passed a lead paint standard for water-based paints. All were influenced by the provisions that were included in the Model Law, which was drafted by EPA, in particular the 90 ppm lead limit. The CARICOM standard was also influenced by a Lead Paint Alliance webinar for the Caribbean region, which was developed and delivered by EPA in partnership with UN Environment and the Pan-American Health Organization.

NEW DRAFT LAWS: Brazil, Mexico, Ukraine, Israel, Argentina, and the East African Community are working on draft laws. All are being influenced by the Model Law, which was drafted by EPA, in particular the 90 ppm lead limit. EPA coordinated with UN Environment, WHO, IPEN and the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative to provide assistance to Brazil, Ukraine, Israel and Mexico through review and comment on draft laws.

NEW TOOLS:

- EPA spearheaded the development and UN Environment published the **Model Law** and Guidance for Regulating Lead Paint, a resource for countries establishing new laws. Currently available in English, French, Russian and Spanish. EPA facilitated the Russian and Spanish translations.
- EPA led the development of and UN Environment will publish the **2018 Global Status Update**, which provides a summary of the status of laws.
- EPA worked with the State Department to develop a **lead paint demarche** to US embassies in select countries that will be targeted by the UN Environment GEF Project. The demarche has currently led to follow up actions in at least 10 countries, but additional action is anticipated when the GEF project begins.
- EPA established
- EPA developed an LPA **newsletter** template that will be used to send out regular newsletters to LPA partners. A newsletter using this format went out in September.
- EPA staff helped develop a new **LPA web site** and **brand identity** to establish a web presence and increase the visibility of the LPA.
- EPA led the effort to develop a **Resource Package for the International Week of Action for 2018**, which provides lead paint campaign materials in all UN languages.

NEW POLICY STATEMENTS:

- The third meeting of UN Environment Assembly (UNEA 3) adopted a resolution calling for action to eliminate exposure to lead paint. EPA spearheaded drafting the resolution language and worked closely with the State Department to bring co-sponsoring countries/regions (Argentina, Africa Group) on board.

- The African Environment Ministers declared their support for the establishment of lead paint laws in Africa at the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment in September 2018. EPA provided background material to the conference and the declaration language mirrors that of the Model Law recommendation for a lead limit of 90 ppm. This declaration will be helpful in moving lead paint laws forward in the region.

NEW FUNDING: The Global Environment Facility approved \$ 3.05 million dollars in funding for a lead paint project to establish laws in at least 40 countries and assist 50 SMEs to reformulate paint to be lead-free. EPA helped develop the project proposal, is on the project steering committee and implementation team and is providing in-kind and cash resources. EPA also helped bring on board key partners, such as the American Bar Association, the international paint industry (International Paint and Printing Ink Council) and IPEN.

NEW PARTNERS: As a direct result of EPA outreach, ABA/ROLI, the Vietnam Chemicals Agency and the New York School of Pediatrics joined the Lead Paint Alliance as partners this year.

OTHER

World Bank outreach: EPA helped organize a World Bank lead paint workshop with UN Environment and WHO that resulted in increased understanding and support of the need to eliminate lead paint globally.

Chair of the Advisory Council: EPA chaired two meetings of the LPA Advisory Council, which were some of the most well-attended and informative meetings of the Advisory Council in past years. All AC members, which included governments, industry and NGOs, were engaged and reported out on their many activities to promote lead paint. With EPA's encouragement, the Secretariat also expanded the AC to include Boysen, a large paint company from the Philippines, and ABA/ROLI on the AC, in order to increase the voice of the paint industry and the legal committee in the discussions. As Chair, EPA also met monthly with the Secretariat to discuss the activities of the LPA.

Launch of the Model Law in a Developing Country Region: EPA worked with UN Environment for first even launch of the Model Law in a developing country. The Model Law was launched in a Lead Paint Alliance regional workshop in Jamaica in December 2017, where the legal community was involved for the first time. The workshop involved the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative and was hosted by the University of the West Indies Norman Manley School of Law. This effort helped bring ABA-ROLI on board with the LPA and was a pilot demonstration of how to effectively engage with countries on lead paint law development through the UN Environment GEF Project.

Building a network of on-the-ground US contacts through ESTH officer training webinars and meetings: Africa, Caribbean, West Africa, Kazakhstan, Ghana, Jamaica

Engaging with the Paint Industry: EPA conducted several in person meetings with the International Paint and Printing Ink Council over the course of the year to facilitate continued industry support and engagement in the Lead Paint Alliance. For example, EPA met with IPPIC to discuss input to the Model Law.

Raising awareness of the dangers of lead paint: EPA worked with UN Environment, WHO and IPEN to plan the 2017 Week of Action in October 2017. The Week of Action generated awareness-raising events in more than 67 cities in at least 44 countries and generated more than 30 media articles. Local events included engagement of government delegations, petition campaigns, and increased national enforcement of existing lead paint laws.